



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 2287
Satoshi OHTSUKA et al. : Docket No. 2004-1069A
Serial No. 10/501,673 : Group Art Unit 1742
Filed July 16, 2004 : Examiner Daniel J. Jenkins
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING : Mail Stop AF
OXIDE DISPERSION STRENGTHENED
FERRITIC STEEL EXCELLENT IN
HIGH-TEMPERATURE CREEP STRENGTH
HAVING COARSE GRAIN STRUCTURE

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
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ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

RESPONSE AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE UNDER 37. CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1742**

Responsive to the Office Action of December 27, 2005, Applicants submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the presently claimed invention over the disclosure of the reference relied upon by the Examiner in rejecting the claim. Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of these remarks.

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lambard et al. is respectfully traversed.

Lambard et al. disclose that the martensitic ODS blank can include one or more stable oxides, such as Y_2O_3 , TiO_2 , etc. The structure of the ODS blank is strengthened by a dispersion of oxides, which are effective to improve high-temperature strength for a long period of time. This disclosure is based on general dispersion strengthening theory.

However, Lambard et al. do not teach or suggest the selection of particular stable oxides, the suitable combination of oxides, or the suitable combination of oxides with metallic elements. These are important factors in order to finely and densely disperse